ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION PUBLIC NOTICE WATERSHED PROTECTION BRANCH

May 5, 2016 Notice Issue Date Savannah / Chatham County

City / County

June 6, 2016 Notice Close Date CMV-025-16-01 Control Number

Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP) – Sediment Basin Tide Gate Removal Activity

This notice is issued to inform the public of a receipt of an application for a variance submitted pursuant to a state environmental Law. The public is invited to comment during the 30-day period on the proposed activity. Site plans are immediately available for review and are located in the following EPD office: Watershed Protection Branch, 200 Piedmont Avenue SW, Suite 418 West, Atlanta, GA 30334. Please contact Ms. Thais Edwards at (404) 463-2387 or email thais.edwards@dnr.ga.gov to schedule an appointment to review the plans. Since the EPD has no authority to zone property or determine land use, only those comments addressing environmental issues related to air, water, and land protection will be considered in the application review process. Written comments should be submitted to: Program Manager, NonPoint Source Program, Erosion and Sedimentation Control, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1462 East, Atlanta, GA 30334.

Type of PermitApplication:

Variance to encroach within the 25-foot State waters buffer.

Applicable Law:

Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act O.C.G.A. 12-7-1 et seq.

Applicable Rules:

Erosion and Sedimentation Control Chapter 391-3-7

Basis under which variance shall be considered {391-3-7-.11 (2)(a-k)}: (a)

Description and Location of Proposed Activity:

The proposed SHEP mitigation project involves the removal of the existing tide gate and tide gate abutments and embankments and the construction of a saltwater barrier sill across the Sediment Basin. This project will consist of removing the existing tide gate piers and abutments, dock, equipment building and other minor structures and the excavation of the tide gate embankments along the Back River in Chatham County, Georgia and Jasper County, South Carolina. The restored embankments will be stabilized with rock riprap and the all disturbed areas above tidal influence will be restored to current existing conditions (i.e., turf grass). Activities in Chatham County, Georgia will result in permanent buffer impacts to 879 linear feet total (21,763 square feet total) along the Back River.

Name and Address of Permit Applicant:

Neil P. McKenzie, P.E. (ATTN: EN-DG) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Savannah District 100 W. Oglethorpe Avenue Savannah, GA 31401

Summary of Rules Requirements for Variance Application:

The application for a variance must include an approved Erosion and Sediment Control Plan with control measures based on sound conservation and engineering practices which meet or exceed the standards in the "Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia" and which will minimize erosion and deposition of sediments on adjacent lands or into State waters.

For Additional Information Contact:

Frank M. Carubba, Environmental Engineer EPD Watershed Protection Branch NonPoint Source Program 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Suite 1462 East Atlanta, GA 30334 Telephone: (404) 651-8550